



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

In a note recently received from Mr. Brown with regard to the Baltimore election of Nov. 5, 1895, it is pointed out that the percentage of the mayoralty vote of the adult male population was higher than ever before, or about 77.4 per cent.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Todesursachen-Statistik im deutschen Reiche während des Jahres 1892, mit Bemerkungen von Sanitätsrath Dr. A. Würzburg.

This pamphlet of 234 pages is an extract or reprint from the "Medicinal Statistische Mittheilungen" of the Imperial German Health Office. It contains the statistics of mortality of the German Empire for the year 1892, arranged by general divisions of the empire (ten in number), and also for 953 smaller districts.

The deaths are also classified by four groups of ages: 0-1, 1-15, 15-60, and all over 60 years. There are also columns for populations and estimated populations for 1892; for births, still-births, total deaths, and for each one of 29 principal diseases and groups of diseases.

From the first page, which gives the figures for the German Empire, we quote the following figures, placing beside them those of England and of Massachusetts for the same year, for the purpose of comparison:—

	Population at Last Census.	Estimated Population 1892.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Deaths Under 1 Year. Per Cent of Births.
German Empire.....	46,355,297	47,125,446	35.9	24.4	22.9
England and Wales....	29,082,585	29,405,054	30.5	19.0
Massachusetts.....	2,238,943	2,338,130	28.2	20.8	16.2

The birth and death rates in the different parts of the empire in 1892 were as follows:—

PER 1000 OF THE POPULATION.

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Excess of Birth Rate.
Prussia.....	36.3	23.4	12.9
Bavaria.....	36.0	27.0	8.9
Saxony.....	39.5	26.3	13.2
Württemberg.....	33.7	25.3	8.4
Baden.....	32.7	22.3	10.4
Hesse.....	31.4	22.1	9.3
Saxe-Coburg-Gotha.....	33.5	20.9	12.6
Bremen.....	30.5	19.6	10.9
Hamburg.....	35.0	38.7	3.7
Alsace-Lorraine.....	29.4	22.4	7.0

DEATH RATES FROM CERTAIN CAUSES, 1892.

Expressed as a Ratio per 10,000 of the Living Population.

	German Empire.	England.	Massachusetts.
Diphtheria and croup.....	11.8	3.0	6.1
Whooping cough.....	4.0	4.6	1.0
Scarlet fever.....	2.2	1.9	2.8
Measles.....	3.1	4.6	0.4
Small-pox.....	0.02	0.15	0.01
Typhoid fever.....	1.7	1.4	3.5
Tuberculosis of lungs.....	23.5	14.7	24.2
Tuberculosis of other organs.....	1.7	4.3	7.1
Pneumonia.....	14.8	12.5	21.2
Puerperal fever.....	0.7	0.8	0.3
Other accidents of child birth.....	0.9	1.0	0.9
Cancer.....	6.1	6.9	5.9
Old age.....	23.3	9.4	8.0
Accidents.....	3.8	5.5	7.7
Suicide.....	2.1	0.9	1.2

Popolazione Movimento dello Stato Civile. Anno 1894. Roma, 1895.

This valuable abstract, published by the Department of Agriculture, Industry, and Commerce of Italy, embraces the principal vital statistics of Italy for the year 1894, with the exception of those which relate to the causes of death, which are usually treated in a separate abstract.

The estimated population to the close of 1894 was 30,913,663. Tables are printed showing estimates of the population for each year

from 1872 to 1894 inclusive, together with the marriages, births, and deaths, and the rates for the same years. The annual increase of population is estimated to have been about .006 per cent annually.

Marriages.—The marriages in 1894 were 231,581, which was 7.5 per 1000 of the population; persons married, 15 per 1000. The rate for the whole period of twenty-three years was fairly constant, the maximum being 8.4 per 1000 in 1875, and the minimum 6.8 in 1880. The highest marriage rates in 1894 (8.8) occurred in Calabria, and the lowest (6.7) in Liguria and in Sicily.

By months, and when compared with a monthly standard of 1000, the greatest relative number occurred in November (1352) and the lowest (672) in July. In each of the seasonal tables on pages 10, 29, and 36, the method adopted is quite similar to that used by Dr. Boeckh in the Statistical Yearbook of Berlin, whereby the inequalities of the months are eliminated in making the comparison.

The percentage of bridegrooms who could write or sign their names (*sottoscrivere l'atto di matrimonio*) in 1894 was 61.1 per cent, and that of brides was 44.3. There was a progressive improvement in this respect among men from 58.6 per cent in 1890 to 61.1 in 1894, and among women from 39.9 in 1890 to 44.3 in 1894. In each 10,000 bridegrooms 2558 were under 25 years at the time of marriage, and only 12 were under 18, while 6111 brides out of each 10,000 were under 25 years, and only three out of each 10,000 were under 15.

Births.—The births in 1894 were 1,102,935, and the birth rate was 35.8 per 1000; the maximum for the 23-year period was 39.3 in 1876 and the minimum was 33.9 in 1880. The ratio of males to females in 1894 was as 106 of the former to 100 of the latter. This ratio has been steadily maintained since 1862.

The ratio of illegitimate births in 1894 was 67.7 per 1000 births. This includes all classes of illegitimates. The maximum ratio (252 per 1000) existed in Romagna, and the minimum (33.5) in Piedmont. The tables presented give a classification of illegitimates (*illegittimi riconosciuti* and *non riconosciuti ed esposti*), or illegitimates recognized by one or both parents, and illegitimates abandoned or exposed, and not thus recognized, many of the latter class being entrusted to the *ruota*, or foundling wheel. The ratio of these two classes differs greatly in different provinces. For the whole kingdom the first class constituted 39.4 per 1000 births in 1894, and the second class 28.3 per 1000.

The greatest number of births (1134, as compared with a monthly standard of 1000) occurred in January, and the least (922) in August. There were 42,256 still-births in 1894, a ratio of 4.03 per cent of the total number. Plural births constituted 1.2 per cent of the total number.

Deaths.—The deaths in 1894 were 776,372, or 25.2 per 1000 of the population. The maximum death rate for the 23-year period (30.8) occurred in 1880, and the minimum (25.2) in 1894. A comparison of the first five years (1872–76) with the last five years (1890–94) shows a decided improvement, the mean death rate of the former having been 30.2 per 1000, and that of the latter 25.9. The highest death rate in 1894 occurred in Calabria (29.8 per 1000), and the lowest in the province of Venice (21.6).

The ratio of deaths of males to those of females was as 103 to 100. The actual death rate of each sex — or, as stated in the report of the Registrar-General of England, “the deaths of males to 1000 females in equal numbers living,”— is not presented in the Italian report.

The maximum death rate by months (comparing with a monthly standard of 1000) occurred in January, and was 1439, while the minimum (791) occurred in May.

S. W. A.

Twelfth Annual Report of the Superintendent of Health, Providence, R. I., for 1894. Pp. 47. Charles V. Chapin, Superintendent of Health.

This report gives special attention to the statistics of scarlet fever. Susceptibility varies much according to age. Taking the total number of persons under twenty-one years of age, 53.6 per cent, or a little more than one-half, are liable to an attack if exposed. Below the age of one the chance of attack is one in four; between the third and fifth years it is three in four; and after the twelfth year it stands at one in four again. The statistics show that of 100 who had had a previous attack, 13 per cent were attacked again; of 230 adults who had previously had scarlet fever, 3.4 per cent were attacked; while of the adults who had never had it, 5.6 per cent were attacked.

The value of isolation is shown by the fact that of 317 children who were at once removed when scarlet fever was discovered, only 5.6 per cent were attacked on their return. Other interesting statistics relating to this disease may be found in this report.